

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JASON MICHAEL BOETCHER

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2003*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Jason Michael Boetcher has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Jason Michael Boetcher has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Jason Michael Boetcher has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jason Michael Boetcher must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the residents of Frazeysburg and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Jason Michael Boetcher as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

### HIGH SCHOOLERS DISPLAY TRUE HEROISM—PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

**HON. HEATHER WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2003*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to your attention Kevin and Manuel Romero, best friends who took it upon themselves to help save a family's home during the first of two fires that recently threatened Albuquerque's bosque.

Kevin and Manuel will be juniors at Albuquerque's West Mesa High School in the fall. They both grew up on Albuquerque's West Side, the area of town most threatened by the recent fires, and have been involved in JROTC throughout high school.

On June 24, the pair decided to drive by the bosque to get a closer look at the flames. As they did so, they saw Mary and Dick Kirschner, whose home borders the bosque, attempting to put out the flames encroaching on their house. Grabbing shovels, the boys immediately filled buckets with dirt and dumped sand onto the embers. The thought of not helping never crossed their minds.

Kevin and Manuel's efforts clearly made a difference in saving the Kirschners' home, which is now surrounded by scorched terrain. That landscape is a constant reminder of how close the fire came. Kevin and Manuel had never met the Kirschners, yet they tirelessly worked to save their home. The boys' efforts won them not only recognition on numerous local newscasts but the thanks of the Kirschners as well, who praise the boys for "reaffirming the best of human instincts."

Kevin's mother taught him that good deeds come back to those who do them, and that creed has clearly affected both Kevin and Manuel in a very positive way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you join me and all the residents of New Mexico in honoring and thanking Kevin and Manuel Romero for their valiant efforts in saving a family home from a devastating fire. Their spirit of community is an inspiration to us all.

### HONORING THE ORANGE 9-10 GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2003*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and excitement that I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Orange 9-10 Girls Softball Team who recently won their second consecutive State Championship title. I am certainly proud to stand with the Orange community in saluting these youngsters on this tremendous accomplishment.

For too long young women were often discouraged from participating in sports. It has only been in the last decade that women's sports have exploded onto the national stage. With the continued and increasing interest in women's collegiate and professional teams, so many opportunities are opening up for our young people.

This team of fourteen girls worked hard and played well—enjoying an extraordinary season. More importantly, they have learned one of life's most valuable lessons—teamwork. Softball, like all sports, teaches us the value of team work, practice, camaraderie, and commitment to excellence. These skills will serve these young people well as they begin to make a difference in the world. Working together, they have already accomplished so much and who knows—perhaps the next Lisa Fernandez or Christa Williams is among them. I have every confidence that they will enjoy great success in all of their future endeavors.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to extend my thanks and congratulations to some very special parents. It is with great pleasure that I also recognize Coaches Ken Slowik, Bruce Post, and Bill McNeil—all of whom have worked hard to give these young people the chance to play. Without their efforts, the success of the team would not have been possible.

This evening, as they celebrate their victory, I would again extend my heart-felt congratulations to these youngsters as well as my very best wishes for continued success. I am thrilled to join the Orange community in recognizing this outstanding accomplishment and only wish that I could share in tonight's festivities. You have made us all proud.

### A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING RONALD SICKELS

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2003*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker: Whereas, Ronald Sickels has demonstrated professionalism and a dedication to safety; and

Whereas, Ronald Sickels has logged 1 million miles, the equivalent of circling the earth's equator 40 times, without a single preventable accident; and

Whereas, Ronald Sickels must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth over his years at Yellow Transportation;

Therefore, I join with the Motor Freight Carriers Association and the residents of Ohio 18th Congressional District in congratulating Ronald Sickels for his outstanding achievement.

### A LIFE-SAVING PARTNERSHIP— QWEST JOINS AMBER ALERT TEAM

**HON. HEATHER WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 9, 2003*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to your attention a partnership that could save children's lives. Telecommunications provider Qwest will begin sending AMBER Alerts directly to its technicians' pagers in order to increase the number of individuals looking for missing children. The company joins America Online and the New Mexico State Lottery as a corporate partner in the program to find abducted children.

The AMBER Alert program began in 1996, and since then over 32 abducted children nationally have been found as a direct result of communities' rapid response to the alert. In October 2000 I sponsored and the House passed a resolution on this floor urging communities to implement the AMBER Alert. I then laid the groundwork for the alerts to become available in New Mexico, which they did in April 2001. Today the Albuquerque Police Department, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department, and the New Mexico State Police have all established AMBER Alert programs.

The AMBER Alerts are currently carried by New Mexico's broadcast media via the same Emergency Alert System used in severe weather and national emergencies. The tones so familiar to citizens during storms are now helping to save children's lives. Thanks to Qwest's efforts, the alerts will now go out directly to the company's field technicians' pagers as well. The workers cover much of the state in their efforts to serve customers, so adding those employees to the network of individuals looking for missing children will be a tremendous advantage.

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